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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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9209-69

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3 DEC 1969

Vice Admiral Ralph W. Cousins  
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations  
Fleet Operations and Readiness  
Department of the Navy  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Admiral Cousins,

I take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the United States Navy for the outstanding support rendered during the recent initial carrier qualification of Agency U-2R aircraft and pilots [REDACTED]

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The efforts of Rear Admiral Pierre Charbonnet and Commander John E. Flanigan, Jr., Fleet Operations Division and Captain Richard E. Rumble, Commanding Officer, USS America are especially noteworthy. The timely coordination and planning effected by Admiral Charbonnet and Commander Flanigan, in conjunction with personnel at CINCLANT, ensured the smooth scheduling and availability of the required naval personnel and equipment to conduct this worthwhile operation. Our successful qualification of both the U-2R aircraft and our Agency pilots in carrier operations without incident is directly attributable to the outstanding support of Captain Rumble and his entire command. His cooperation and professional assistance left nothing to be desired and are worthy of highest praise.

Please convey through your channels our sincere thanks to the above personnel for a job well done. Their contribution to this project was commendable and reflects great credit upon themselves and the United States Navy.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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Brigadier General, USAF

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